



Delaware

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

DE-CW0705

MAY 16, 2005

COOL DRY CONDITIONS ALLOW FOR PLANTING PROGRESS

A cool dry week, with **6.8 days suitable for field work**, meant farmers were able to make progress in getting crops planted. As a result, most vegetable and grain crops are now at, or in some cases exceed, the five-year average for planting progress. However, another week of minimal precipitation raises concern about soil moisture conditions.

Small grains are in mostly good to excellent condition. **Barley** condition is rated 1 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 70 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. **Winter wheat** is rated 1 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 30 percent excellent.

Pastures are reported in mostly good condition with 2 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 57 percent good and 17 percent excellent. **Hay supplies** are 20 percent short and 80 percent adequate.

DELAWARE’S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 15, 2005 (PERCENT)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average 2000-2004
Small Grain Development:				
Barley Headed	96	89	95	90
Wheat Headed	55	16	66	64
Planting Progress:				
Cantaloups	36	13	36	39
Cucumbers	25	10	27	19
Field Corn	85	63	81	72
Lima Beans (Processed)	20	-	-	15
Potatoes	91	83	100	96
Snap Beans	22	20	49	42
Sorghum	3	2	15	11
Soybeans	9	2	12	12
Sweet Corn	43	30	34	47
Tomatoes	36	15	36	38
Watermelons	44	13	44	35
Fruit Crops Blooming:				
Apples	97	68	99	98
Peaches	99	93	99	96
Strawberries	93	83	92	90

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 15, 2005 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	42	58	-
Topsoil (2004)	-	4	75	21
Five Year Average	7	13	64	16
Subsoil Moisture	-	5	92	3
Subsoil (2004)	-	-	90	10
Five Year Average	4	17	72	7

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Delaware Extension System, Delaware Farm Services Agency, Delaware Department of Agriculture and Delaware Agricultural Statistics Service cooperating.

For more information call: Delaware Agricultural Statistics Service, 2320 South DuPont Hwy., Dover DE 19901, 302-698-4537 (or 800-282-8685 in state)

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 15, 2005

	Precipitation			Temperatures			
Weather Station	Total this week	Total Since Jan 1	Departure from Normal Since Jan 1	High	Low	Average	Departure from Normal
Maryland							
Baltimore/Washington Airport	0.00	14.44	0.89	71	34	52	-8
Easton	0.00	18.43	3.29	71	38	54	-8
Frederick	0.01	13.52	0.86	71	36	50	-7
Frostburg	0.13	15.14	-0.61	64	29	44	-10
Hagerstown	0.02	10.47	-2.04	68	35	50	-10
Mechanicsville	0.04	14.46	-0.76	70	34	50	-11
Patuxent River	0.27	13.85	0.28	67	38	54	-8
Ocean City	0.49	14.40	-1.40	66	34	51	-9
Salisbury	0.49	14.66	-0.68	68	29	50	-11
Sharpsburg	0.04	12.87	0.21	70	30	48	-9
Washington, DC (Reagan National)	0.01	13.86	1.65	71	38	55	-9
Delaware							
Dover	0.20	15.39	0.78	68	37	52	-9
Georgetown	0.44	13.02	-2.12	67	35	52	-8
Wilmington	0.03	15.05	1.33	71	33	51	-8

Weather Data is provided by the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Auburn, Alabama and is considered preliminary.